



Work Safety Alert

Crushed by the Lattice Boom of a Crawler-mounted Crane

1. **Date of Accident :** March 2015
2. **Place of Accident :** A civil engineering site
3. **Summary :**

A worker was crushed to death by the lattice boom of a crawler-mounted crane while it was being dismantled.

4. Work Safety Alert for Contractors/Employers :

To ensure the safety of workers engaged in mobile crane dismantling work, the contractors/employers should provide and maintain a safe system of work which should include, but not limited to, the following:

- appointing a competent person to conduct task-specific risk assessments;
- formulating detailed safe working procedures and appropriate safety measures, including securing the boom sections of the crane to be dismantled, with due regard to the results of the risk assessments and crane manufacturer's instructions;
- ensuring clear delineation of safety responsibilities and effective coordination and communication among the principal contractor, subcontractor(s) and also the crane leasing company, if any, for full implementation of the safe system of work;
- designating and properly barricading a zone for the dismantling work with warning notices displayed at prominent positions to prevent unauthorized entry;
- ensuring that all parts of the boom are slung from the lifting points recommended by the manufacturer and in such a way that they will not swing or become unstable;



- properly supporting the boom, e.g. by blocking, at the appropriate sections in conformity with the manufacturer's instructions/specifications to prevent undue movement of the boom during dismantling ;
- ensuring that no person stays below/within boom sections during the removal of the connection pins or other boom components;
- appointing a competent person who has been adequately trained and possesses sufficient experience in crane dismantling relevant to the particular type of crane involved to directly supervise the dismantling work;
- providing the workers involved with necessary safety information, instruction and training to ensure that all workers are familiar with the safe working procedures and safety measures; and
- establishing and implementing an effective monitoring and control system to ensure that the above safety measures are strictly followed.

5. Reference :

- [Code of Practice for Safe Use of Mobile Cranes](#)¹
- [Safe Systems of Work](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Information, Instruction and Training](#)¹
- [Five Steps to Risk Assessment](#)¹

DISCLAIMER

This Work Safety Alert ("the Alert") is issued at the earliest possible opportunity after a serious accident with a view to drawing the attention of interested parties to the general safety precautionary measures necessary to protect people engaging in similar work activities. The material contained in the Alert constitutes general guidance only. It does not reduce, limit, or replace, any legal obligations upon any person to comply with any statutory duties under relevant legislation. Users such as Managers and Supervisors should make their own evaluation of the information contained in the Alert to determine if it can be applied to their own situations and practices. The Labour Department does NOT accept any responsibilities for any loss or damage resulting from the use of or failure to use of the information on the Alert.

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